B.Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1938) 1940 MMI Aden MMI

671 692 Statutes of general application are applied so far only as the circumstances of the Colony and its inhabitants permit and subject to such qualifications as local circumstances may render necessary. In particular, the personal law of Mohamedans, Hindus, Jews and Parsees are applied, save in so far as that law has been expressly superseded by legislation, in matters of marriage, divorce, guardianship, inheritance, etc.

The enactments in force in the Colony on the 31st December, 1938, include sixty-three Ordinances, thirty-eight of which were enacted during the period under review, and all Indian and Bombay Acts and Regulations in force in the Colony on 31st March, 1937, not expressly repealed thereafter.

692 The Supreme Court is the only Criminal Court having power to pass a sentence of imprisonment exceeding two years or fine exceeding one thousand rupees. All trials in the Supreme Court are by jury. In the case of Europeans and Americans, the majority of the jurors must be Europeans or Americans. The other Criminal Courts of the Colony are those of—

(1) The Chief Magistrate,

(2) The Divisional Magistrates at Tawahi, Crater, Sheikh Othman and Perim.

An appeal lies to the Supreme Court in all cases in which a sentence of imprisonment exceeding one month or of fine exceeding Rs. 50 has been passed. The Supreme Court has also powers of revision.

695 691 No sentence of death can be passed on a pregnant woman or a youthful offender. Save in exceptional cases, a youthful offender is dealt with—

(1) by placing him on probation, or

(2) by discharging him after due admonition, or

(3) by delivering him to his parent, guardian or relative, who has executed a bond for his good behaviour, or

(4) by a fine, or

(5) by whipping, or

(6) by ordering his detention.

691 There is a considerable amount of petty civil litigation in the Colony. During the period under review, 59 suits of value Rs. 1,55,304-5-2 were filed in the Supreme Court, 315 suits of value Rs. 45,062-15-9 in the Court of the Registrar and 1,525 suits of value Rs. 58,272-7-1 in the Court of Small Causes. 37, including seven of previous years' suits of value Rs. 99,827-13-0 were disposed of by the Supreme Court, 265 suits of value Rs. 31,747-5-9 by the Court of the Registrar, and 1,376 suits of value Rs. 49,439-7-7 by the Court of Small Causes. 28 applications for revision were filed and 43 appeals lodged in the Supreme Court which disposed of 28 such applications and 35 appeals. The miscellaneous proceedings in the Supreme Court included 46 applications concerning guardianship matters, 13 applications for succession certificate, and 52

3 Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1938) 1940 MM1 Aden MM1

applications concerning other matters. The corresponding disposals were 45 (including three of the previous year), 15 and 48 respectively. No insolvency proceeding was before the Supreme Court. 14 estates of minors and dead persons and one estate of a lunatic were in charge of the Supreme Court. 14 divorce cases were filed in the Supreme Court, all brought by Mohamedan women. Decrees were granted in six cases, six cases were dismissed and two cases remained pending at the close of the year.

The following number of criminal cases were heard and determined in the Courts of the Magistrates during the period under review :—

Number of persons.			*Convictions.*	*Discharged or acquitted.*
Males.	*Females.*	*Total.*		
2,690	335	3,025	1,658	1,306

Six cases were committed to the Supreme Court, 5 resulting in convictions and one remained pending. The majority of criminal cases heard in the Courts of the Magistrates were for minor offences against the person, insult, affray, minor offences punishable under the Aden Settlement Regulation or the Police Ordinance, and minor traffic offences.

Offence.	*No. of cases.*
Voluntarily causing hurt	116
Assault	209
Other offences against the person	72
Theft	69
Other offences against property	69
Insult	443
Affray	368
Other offences punishable under the Indian Penal Code	97
Cruelty to Animals	20
Offences punishable under the Police Ordinance	459
Offences punishable under the Indian Motor Vehicle Act	679
Offences punishable under the Aden Settlement Regulation	371
Offences punishable under other enactments	53

The various punishments imposed during the year in respect of the convictions in the Court of the Magistrates were as follows :—

Imprisonment with or without fine	200
Whipping	27
Fine only	1,191
Bound over or otherwise dealt with	240

3 Gt. Brit. Colonial Office G-3 (1938) 1940 MMI Aden MMI

691 107 applications for maintenance were made in the Courts of the Magistrates. In 47 cases orders for maintenance were granted.

The offences in respect of which persons were tried in the Supreme Court were—

(1) Culpable homicide not amounting to murder,
(2) Forgery of a cheque and cheating,
(3) Murder,
(4) House trespass and outraging the modesty of a woman,
(5) Forging a Court document.

695 58 criminal appeals were lodged and 62 proceedings in revision taken in the Supreme Court. In 11 appeals the cases were remanded for retrial, and 23 appeals were dismissed. In 14 cases appeals were allowed and in 6 cases sentences were reduced. 51 applications for revision were dismissed. In one case sentence was enhanced, in 2 cases sentences were reduced, and in 5 cases convictions were set aside and 3 cases were ordered to be retried.

693 There are 6 lawyers practising in the Courts of the Colony, three being Hindus, two Mohamedans and one a Parsee. Sanads are granted by the Supreme Court under rules made under the Supreme Court Ordinance. Two of these lawyers are Barristers-at-Law and the other four have Indian legal qualifications.

Police

625 The police under the control of a Commissioner of Police and a Deputy Commissioners of Police consist of two forces, an unarmed and an armed force. The strength of the former is 9 Inspectors, 4 Jamadars and 306 men. The strength of the armed force is 4 Inspectors, 1 Jamadar and 200 men. Details of the strength are as follows:—

Unarmed Police

	Inspectors.	*Jamadars.*	*Head Constables and Constables.*
Aden Land and Sheikh Othman Post Police.	3	2	215
Perim Land Police	—	—	13
Sheikh Othman Mounted Police	—	1	13
Aden Harbour Police ...	4	1	37
Total	9	4	306

Armed Police

At Aden	3	1	138
At Perim	1	—	31
At Kamaran	1	—	30
Total	4	1	200

4 Gr. Brit., Colonial Office C-5 (1937) 1939 MAG Aden MAG

695

No sentence of death can be passed on a pregnant woman or a youthful offender. Save in exceptional cases a youthful offender is dealt with—

(1) by placing him on probation, or
(2) by discharging him after due admonition, or
(3) by delivering him to his parent, guardian or relative, who has executed a bond for his good behaviour, or
(4) by fine, or
(5) by whipping, or
(6) by ordering his detention.

491

There is a considerable amount of petty civil litigation in the Colony. During the period under review, 22 suits of value Rs.79,957-10-0 were filed in the Supreme Court, 275 suits of value Rs.41,736-13-3 in the Court of Registrar, and 1,242 suits of value Rs.55,063-2-11 in the Court of Small Causes. Twenty-seven suits of value Rs.88,373-14-9 were disposed of by the Supreme Court, 285 suits of value Rs.44,529-3-9 by the Court of the Registrar, and 1,150 suits of value Rs.53,936-5-6 by the Court of Small Causes. Thirty-two applications for revision were filed and three appeals lodged in the Supreme Court which disposed of thirty-one such applications and three appeals. The miscellaneous proceedings in the Supreme Court included thirty-two applications concerning guardianship matters, five applications for succession certificates, and sixteen applications concerning other matters. The corresponding disposals were 29, 5, and 16 respectively. Eight insolvency proceedings were before the Supreme Court. Eleven estates of minors and one estate of a lunatic were in charge of the Supreme Court. Ten divorce cases were heard by the Courts, all brought by Mohammedan women and decrees were granted in five cases.

The following number of criminal cases were heard and determined in the Courts of the Magistrates during the period under review:—

Number of persons.			*Convictions.*	*Discharged or acquitted.*
Males.	*Females.*	*Total.*		
1,737	348	2,085	979	1,041

Two cases were committed to the Supreme Court, one resulting in a conviction, and one in acquittal. The majority of criminal cases heard in the Courts of the Magistrates were for minor offences against the person, insult, affray, minor offences punishable under the Aden Settlement Regulations or the Police Ordinance, and minor traffic offences.

4-Gr. Bkt., Colonial Office G-8 (1937) 1939 MM2 Aden MM3

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Offence.	Number of cases.
Voluntarily causing hurt	163
Assault	130
Other offences against the person	31
Theft	27
Other offences against property	55
Insult	363
Affray	183
Other offences punishable under the Indian Penal Code	83
Cruelty to animals	20
Offences punishable under the Police Ordinance	399
Offences punishable under the Indian Motor Vehicles Act	478
Offences punishable under the Aden Settlement Regulation	161
Offences punishable under other enactments	30

681 The various punishments imposed during the year in respect of the convictions in the Courts of the Magistrates were as follows:—

Imprisonment with or without fine	133
Whipping	17
Fine only	803
Bound over or otherwise dealt with	13

691 Eighty-four applications for maintenance were made in the Courts of the Magistrates. Orders for maintenance were granted in 36 cases.

691 692 The offences in respect of which persons were tried in the Supreme Court were:—

(1) Theft with 11 previous convictions;

(2) misappropriation of a postal letter while in course of transmission by post; criminal breach of trust as a public servant in respect of the said letter; and dishonestly using as genuine a receipt in respect of the said letter, knowing it to be forged.

Nine criminal appeals were lodged and 38 proceedings in revision taken in the Supreme Court. Twenty-six of such proceedings arose out of applications and twelve were taken by the Court *suo motu*. In one appeal the case was remanded for retrial, and eight appeals were dismissed. Twenty applications for revision were dismissed. As a result of one such application, sentence was enhanced; as the result of another, sentence was reduced; and in the case of four, convictions were set aside. In revisional proceedings taken by the Court *suo motu*, sentence was enhanced in six cases and varied in one case, no action being taken in the remaining cases.

693 There are five lawyers practising in the Courts of the Colony, three being Hindus, one a Mohammedan, and one a Parsee. Sanads are granted by the Supreme Court under rules made under the Supreme Courts Ordinance. Two of these lawyers are barristers-at-law and the other three have Indian legal qualifications.

R.O.L. Bib., Colonial Office G-3 (1947) 1948 MMI Aden MMI

693 individually exercise the powers of a magistrate of the first class as provided by the Criminal Courts Ordinance, 1937, and regular sittings are held at Crater, Tawahi and Sheikh Othman.

692 695 An appeal lies from the Magistrate's Court to the Supreme Court in all criminal cases in which a sentence of imprisonment exceeding one month or fine exceeding Rs. 50 has been passed, and the Supreme Court has also powers of revision.

No sentence of death can be passed on a pregnant woman or a person under the age of 16 years.

A youthful offender may be dealt with by placing him on probation, or by discharging him after due admonition, or by delivering him to his parent, guardian or relative, who has executed a bond for his good behaviour, or by fine, or by whipping, or by ordering his detention.

The Courts performed their usual functions throughout the year. On the criminal side there was an increase of cases both in the Supreme Court and in the Magistrates' Courts. In the Lower Courts there was a very considerable increase in petty offences such as infringements of the Port Rules and minor infringements of the Traffic Ordinance and Rules.

693 694 Although there were eight professional pleaders in the Colony, in the great majority of civil cases even in the Supreme Court one or both parties appeared in person without a pleader. This fact and the Indian procedure as followed in the Colony whereby every step in pleadings involves an appearance before the Judge causes a great deal of delay. On the criminal side in the Magistrates' Courts similar delay is caused by the fact that a preliminary enquiry has to be made in every case punishable with imprisonment for a term exceeding six months before the accused can be charged and required to plead. This requirement exists irrespective of the facts of any particular case and even though the case is one that may be tried summarily without recording the evidence.

Owing to the increase of work, Government agreed to the appointment of a second magistrate of the first class on a contractual basis.

691 There is a considerable amount of civil litigation in the Colony. During the year 1947, 304 civil suits were filed in the Supreme Court and 328 civil suits were finally decided. Ten applications for civil revision were filed and decided. Twenty-three civil appeals were lodged in the Supreme Court which disposed of all. The miscellaneous proceedings in the Supreme Court included 30 applications concerning guardianship matters, 10 for succession certificates, 58 for heirship certificates, two for letters of administration, one for probate; and excluding execution proceedings and interlocutory applications, there were 22 other applications, making in all 123. The corresponding disposals were 34, 10, 63, 1, 1, and 23 respectively, making in all 132.

Twenty-six estates were in charge of the Supreme Court.

586 All six cases for dissolution of Mohammedan marriages filed during the year were disposed of.

674 Eleven criminal cases were committed to the Supreme Court during 1947 for trial, out of which nine were disposed of during the year and the remaining two were heard and decided in January, 1948.

S.Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1947) 1949 MM1 Aden MM1

681 The various punishments imposed during the year in respect of the convictions in the Magistrates' Courts were as follows:

Imprisonment with or without fine	928
Whipping	23
Fine only	5,513

691 Four hundred and fifty-seven applications for maintenance were made in the magistrates' Courts. In 306 cases orders for maintenance were granted, and in the remaining cases maintenance was disallowed.

692 The magistrates are required to submit monthly returns of the criminal cases decided in their courts on the same lines as in East Africa. This system has kept the Supreme Court in close touch with the current work of the Magistrates' Courts and enables due supervision to be effected. Magistrates are also required to submit to the Supreme Court for inspection the record of any case in which a sentence of corporal punishment is awarded.

REGISTRATION

617 The Registration Department is in charge of the Registrar of Documents, who is also Registrar-General of Births, Deaths and Marriages for the Colony of Aden.

693 During the year under review, His Honour the Judge of the Supreme Court was in charge of the offices referred to above.

Registration of Testamentary and Non-Testamentary Documents

The total number of documents presented during 1947 was 443.

Thirty applications for copies, searches and inspections were received, and disposed of. The number of visits paid by the Sub-Registrar to private residences was 39.

Registration of Firms

Nineteen applications for registration of firms under the Partnership Ordinance, 1939, were received.

Bills of Exchange

The total number of Bills of Exchange noted and protested under the Bills of Exchange Ordinance, 1941, was 30.

Income

151 The total income from registration documents and firms and notarial charges was Rs. 7,984.

POLICE

674 Serious crime remained about the same as in the previous year. The acid-throwing attack in August, 1947, on the Matron of the Civil Hospital,

6:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1948) 1950 MM1 Aden MM1

No sentence of death can be passed on a pregnant woman or a person under the age of sixteen years.

A youthful offender may be dealt with:

(1) by placing him on probation, or
(2) by discharging him after due admonition, or
(3) by delivering him to his parent, guardian, or relative, who has executed a bond for his good behaviour, or
(4) by fine, or
(5) by whipping, or
(6) by ordering his detention.

There are three Magistrates including the Chief Magistrate who individually exercise the powers of a Magistrate of the first class as provided by the Criminal Courts Ordinance 1937, and regular sittings are held at Crater, Tawahi and Sheikh Othman.

An appeal lies from the Magistrate's Court to the Supreme Court in all criminal cases in which a sentence of imprisonment exceeding one month or fine exceeding Rs. 50 has been passed and the Supreme Court has also powers of revision.

During the year Rent Tribunals were set up for the assessment of the standard rent of lettings. The Tribunals are not staffed by the Judicial Department but the Supreme Court can entertain an appeal from the decision of a Tribunal.

The Courts performed their usual functions throughout the year. On the criminal side there has been an increase of cases in the Magistrates' Courts.

In addition to His Honour the Judge of the Supreme Court the Judicial Staff consisted of Mr. Nunn, Chief Magistrate and Messrs. Mansoor and Kazi, Magistrates of the first class. During the year Mr. Nunn was on leave from 2nd June, 1948, to 4th October, 1948, during which period Mr. Mansoor acted as Chief Magistrate and Judge of the Small Causes Court and Mr. Kazi continued to act as Additional Judge of the Small Causes Court.

Although there were seven professional pleaders in the Colony, in the great majority of civil cases even in the Supreme Court one or both parties appeared in person without a pleader. This fact and the Indian procedure as followed in the Colony whereby every step in pleadings involves an appearance before the Judge causes a great deal of delay which could be obviated by procedural reform. On the criminal side in the Magistrates' Courts similar delay is caused by the fact that a preliminary enquiry has to be made in every case punishable with imprisonment for a term exceeding six months before the accused can be charged and required to plead. This requirement exists irrespective of the facts of any particular case and even though the case is one that may be tried summarily without recording the evidence.

There is a considerable amount of civil litigation in the Colony. During 1948, 459 civil suits were filed in the Supreme Court and 326 civil suits were finally decided. Six applications for civil revision were filed and all were decided. Twenty-eight civil appeals were lodged in

6:Gt. Brit. Colonial Office G-3 (1948) 1950 MMI Aden MM

691 the Supreme Court which disposed of 23 such appeals in 1948, three were decided in 1949 and two are still pending. The miscellaneous proceedings in the Supreme Court included 50 applications concerning guardianship matters, 11 applications for succession certificates, 65 applications for heirship certificates, 12 applications for letters of administration, three applications for probate and there were 58 other applications, excluding execution proceedings and interlocutory applications, making in all 199. The corresponding disposals were 46, 11, 63, 12, 3 and 43 respectively, making in all 178.

Eighteen estates were in charge of the Supreme Court.

586 Twelve cases for dissolution of Mohammedan marriages were filed during the year. Five were decided and seven are still pending.

674 Four criminal cases were committed to the Supreme Court for trial, out of which three were disposed of during the year and the remaining one was heard and decided in January, 1949.

The offences in respect of which persons were tried in the Supreme Court were:

Sessions case No.	*Accused No.*	*Nature of charge*	*Result*
1	1. Gabber Abdulla Al-Buderi. 2. Mohamed Ahmed Al-Haidi. 3. Nasser Attick Abdo Badi.	Murder under Section 302 of the Indian Penal Code.	Accused 1 sentenced to 12 months' rigorous imprisonment for voluntarily causing hurt contrary to section 323 of the I.P.C. Accused 2 acquitted. Accused 3 acquitted.
2	Mohamed Gaileb Awad Sumali.	Murder under Section 302 of the Indian Penal Code.	Accused sentenced to penal servitude for life for culpable homicide not amounting to murder under Section 304 of the Indian Penal Code.
3	Khaled Salem Mubarek.	Culpable homicide not amounting to murder under Section 304 of the Indian Penal Code.	Nolle prosequi entered. Accused discharged.
4	Mohamed Abdulla Sanani.	Attempt to commit carnal intercourse against the nature of law under Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code.	do.

At the beginning of 1948, 14 criminal appeals were pending and during the year 294 others were filed. Of these, 233 were dismissed, retrial was ordered in two appeals, 43 appeals were allowed and in 30 appeals convictions were sustained but the sentences were altered. No appeal was left pending at the end of the year. The average time taken for the disposal of a criminal appeal is about a fortnight from the filing of the memorandum.

6:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1948) 1950 MM1 Aden MM|

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Applications for revision on the criminal side totalled 19, of which 10 were dismissed. In eight cases convictions and sentences were set aside and appellants acquitted. In one case the conviction was altered and sentence reduced.

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In the Small Causes Court 896 suits were filed and 853, including 20 cases of the previous year, were disposed of during the period under review.

The following table contains a classified summary of the criminal cases decided in the Magistrate's Courts in the year 1948:

Number of Persons

Males	*Females*	*Total*	*Convictions*	*Discharged or acquitted*
11,666	722	12,388	6,804	5,584

Four cases involving six persons were committed to the Supreme Court.

Offences	*No. of persons*
Offences punishable under Motor Traffic Ordinance and Rules	3,801
Voluntarily causing hurt	242
Assault	287
Other offences against the person	603
Theft	340
Other offences against property	149
Insult	395
Affray	419
Other offences punishable under the Indian Penal Code	625
Offences punishable under the Police Ordinance	3,081
Offences punishable under the Township Rules	1,118
Offences punishable under other laws including Port Rules	1,320
Offences punishable under the Cruelty to Animals Rules	8
TOTAL	12,388

631

The various punishments imposed during the year in respect of the convictions in the Courts of the Magistrates were as follows:

Imprisonment with or without fine	1,161
Whipping	30
Fine only	4,799

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Five hundred and sixty-one applications for maintenance were made in the Magistrates' Courts. In 320 cases orders for maintenance were granted, and in the remaining cases, maintenance was disallowed.

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The Magistrates are required to submit monthly returns of the criminal cases decided in their courts on the same lines as in East Africa. This system has kept the Supreme Court in closer touch with the current work of the Magistrates' Courts and enables closer supervision to be

6 Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1948) 1950 MMI Aden M M

625 police duties, the protection of persons and property, and the prevention and detection of crime. They also police the very important and busy
647 harbour of Aden. The Criminal Investigation Department is responsible for the investigation of serious crime, special branch work, immigration, the issue of passports and the deportation of undesirables and vagrants.
494 In addition, the Police undertake the registration of motor vehicles, the issue of driving licences and the control and issue of permits to public service vehicles.

625 The Armed Police are a semi-military armed force and are responsible for the maintenance of internal security. They provide guards where necessary and escorts for prisoners. They are trained and organised to provide an immediate striking force in the event of internal disturbances. They also provide garrisons for the Islands of Perim and Kamaran.

674 Criminal cases for the year 1948 showed a decrease of 344 as compared with the year 1947, a decrease in Penal Code offences of almost 33½ per cent. This decrease may be considered exceptionally high, but the figures for 1947 were swollen by cases arising from the 1947 riots. How-
[167] ever, there has been a distinct drop in Penal Code offences in the year under review by comparison with the years 1946 and 1945 and it is considered that the reduction is largely due to the implementation in 1947–48 of a closer degree of control over expelled undesirables and the
685 readier detection of them on their return to the Colony. In 1948 there were 522 cases of offences against property compared with 776 such cases in 1947. The total value of property stolen was Rs. 234,644 of which property to the value of Rs. 119,439 (just over 50 per cent) was recovered.

625 During the year under review a total of 5,931 cases was also dealt
691 with by Police under local Ordinances. This shows an increase over the year 1947, but is largely due to the fact that more energetic action has been taken by Police in the matter of dealing with beggars, street vendors and other minor offenders.

PRISON.

697 Dr. N. M. Hodivalla, O.B.E., part-time Superintendent, proceeded to India on leave, in October, 1948, and charge of the Prison till the end of the year was taken over by the Jailer.

The Aden Prison is the only Prison in the Colony, and therefore receives all classes of convicted offenders, in addition to persons committed to trial, and deportees and vagrants awaiting deportation.

Approximately 80 per cent of convicted prisoners are from the Yemen, the Protectorate, and other territories. The administration follows closely, modified where desirable by local conditions, the practice adopted in India.

The prison buildings are situated in a walled compound which ensures complete segregation from the general public. They consist of widely spaced and well-ventilated dormitories, cells, workrooms, store-rooms, kitchens, hospital and office.

Extension to the present office, construction of a range of six superior individual cells for "A" and "B" class prisoners, five cells for the accommodation of lunatic prisoners, and compound walls to four prison

1950:		
Attempted Rape	Convicted and sentenced to 5 years rigorous imprisonment. On appeal to the East African Appeal Court sentence reduced to 2 years.	695 684 682

There were acquittals in two cases, murder and attempted rape; and one case, assaulting a public servant, was withdrawn.

There were 124 appeals from Magistrates Court in criminal cases in 1949 and 98 in 1950. 695

	1949	1950
Civil Cases in the Supreme Court:		691
Suits filed	421	438
Suits disposed of	365	348
Miscellaneous applications	220	189
Applications for:		
Guardian orders	51	44
Succession certificates	12	16
Heirship certificates	116	70
Letters of administration	10	8
Probate	5	5
Others	26	46
Suits for dissolution of Mohammedan marriages	12	10
Appeals from Court of Small Cases ..	9	22
Applications for revision	3	3
Court of Small Causes:		
Suits filed	812	815
Suits disposed of	778	706
Magistrates' Courts:		
Cases filed	9,789	11,975
Persons charged: Males	12,416	12,807
Females	442	89
Total	12,858	12,896
Convicted	7,387	7,345
Acquitted or discharged	5,471	5,551
Offences against Motor Traffic laws ..	3,635	3,775
Voluntarily causing hurt	152	178
Assault	612	744
Other offences against the person	89	124
Theft	246	267
Other offences against property	377	365
Insult	362	426
Affray	348	326

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Other offences punishable under the Indian Penal Code	104	92
Offences punishable under the Police Ordinance	326	378
Offences punishable under the Township Rules and Vagrants and Undesirables Ordinance	502	462
Offences punishable under other laws including Port Rules	6,080	5,749
Offences punishable under Cruelty to Animals Rules	25	10
TOTAL ..	12,858	12,896

681 Magistrates Courts imposed the following punishments on convicted persons :

	1949	1950
Imprisonment with or without fine	856	1,064
Whipping	24	15
Fine only	6,499	6,190
Bound over for good behaviour	4	68
Applications for maintenance allowance ..	116	338
Orders granted	68	244

693 659 The Registration Department, under the Judge, maintains the usual register of births, marriages, and deaths, testamentary and other documents, firms, trade marks, patents and designs. The Sub-Registrar performs the duties of Notary Public, Registrar of Births and Deaths, Registrar of Parsi Marriages, Registrar of Firms, Trade Marks, Patents and Designs.

POLICE

625 The Police Force numbers 777, of which 331 are Armed Police who do not perform any civil police duties. The proportion of civil police to population is 1 to 226. The Civil Police include the Harbour Police, whose duties are chiefly concerned with the protection of shipping and cargo in the extremely busy harbour of Aden.

The force was under the command of the Commissioner throughout 1949 and 1950. The Civil Police perform normal police duties covering the protection of persons and property and the prevention and detection of crime in Aden Colony and in Aden harbour. The Criminal Investigation Department is responsible for the investigation of serious crime, special branch work, immigration, the issue of passports and the deportation of undesirables and vagrants. In addition the Police undertake the registration of motor vehicles, the issue of driving licences, the control and issue of permits to public service vehicles and the licensing of arms.

8:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1951-52)1954 MM1 Aden MM1

which provided mainly for the better enforcing of discipline in the Force.

The General Loan and Stock Ordinance (No. 20 of 1952), which set out the terms and conditions under which loans may be raised by the Government of Aden Colony under separate legislation and provided for the creation of Aden Colony stock. It is similar in form to legislation passed in other Colonies.

The General Local Loan Ordinance (No. 21 of 1952), which set out the terms and conditions under which loans may be raised locally in the Colony by the issue of debentures by the Government of the Colony under separate legislation. It is similar in form to legislation passed in other Colonies.

The Trustee Investment in Aden Government Securities Ordinance (No. 22 of 1952), which provided safeguards to facilitate the investment of trust and other funds in the United Kingdom in Aden Government securities.

The Education Ordinance (No. 23 of 1952), which made provision for control of education in the Colony. This legislation was necessitated by the expansion of both Government and private education.

Chapter 9: Justice, Police and Prisons

JUSTICE

Aden Colony has a Supreme Court with unlimited civil and criminal jurisdiction presided over by a Judge of the Supreme Court. Appeals from the Supreme Court are heard by Her Majesty's Court of Appeal for Eastern Africa.

There are subordinate civil and criminal courts. Subordinate civil business is transacted by the Court of Small Causes. This Court is presided over by the Chief Magistrate, who is the Judge of the Small Causes Court, assisted by one of the other two Magistrates as additional Judge. In addition, there are Magistrate's Courts at Crater, Tawahi and Sheikh Othman.

The criminal system of law is based on that of India, modified by local ordinances. The Indian Penal Code is in force in the Colony.

The commonest type of litigation is that between landlord and tenant under the Aden Rent Restriction Ordinance and the majority of the suits under this head are claims by landlords for possession against their tenants.

The numbers of the civil and criminal cases filed in the Courts of the Colony during the years 1951 and 1952 were as follows:

Supreme Court

	1951	1952
Original Criminal	3	5
Criminal Appeals	77	123
Criminal Revision	22	15
Original Civil	476	566
Civil Appeals	19	22

8:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1951-52)1954 MAS Aden

In addition the Supreme Court disposed of a large number of matters dealing with personal status where in the case of Muslims Sharia Law is applied.

Magistrates' Courts

	1951	1952
Criminal Cases . . .	10,172	9,262
Civil Cases . . .	758	840

POLICE

Establishment

The responsibility for the maintenance of law and order within the Colony and the islands of Perim and Kamaran is vested in a Commissioner of Police and the following was the approved establishment of his Force for 1952:

	Officers	*Ch. Inspectors, Inspectors & Sub-Insps.*	*Cadets*	*Other Ranks*
Civil Police . . .	8	20	4	340
Armed Police . . .	2	12	—	321
Little Aden Refinery detachment	14	18	—	112
Total Establishment . .	24	50	4	802

The Civil Police are employed on the prevention and detection of crime. The Armed Police is a task force and is available for any duties which are outside the scope of the Civil Police. Civil Police are trained in normal police duties but the Armed Police are trained more as soldiers than policemen.

Approval was given in the latter part of the year for the provision of additional police for the Aden Petroleum Refinery project at Little Aden where over 10,000 people of all races are expected to be employed during construction, which started in November, 1952, and is expected to continue for about two and a half years.

Organisation

The Colony is divided into four Police Divisions each under the command of a Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent of Police with Chief Inspectors or Inspectors in charge of Police Stations.

The Commissioner deals with Divisions direct assisted by a Deputy Commissioner, who is responsible for the administration of the Force, and a Superintendent who is responsible for crime investigation and collection of intelligence.

The Armed Police occupy barracks strategically situated in the old town of Crater. They are commanded by a Superintendent who is responsible for their administration, discipline and training, assisted by an Assistant Superintendent. The Armed Police provide detachments for duty on the islands of Kamaran and Perim.

Recruitment and Training

Vacancies in the rank of constable are filled mainly by recruiting either local Arabs or Arabs from the Protectorate. The training course lasts for three months.